

REMARKS

Claims 11-16 are added as new claims. Support is found, for example, at page 11, line 15 to page 12, line 17, page 13, lines 2-5, page 14, lines 3-4, page 14, second line from the bottom to page 15, line 2, and page 20, lines 15-18 of the specification. No new matter is presented.

I. Response to Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1 and 6-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over either of the patents to Katoh et al or Yasuda et al.

Applicants traverse the rejection.

Neither Katoh nor Yasuda discloses or suggests the cationic resin employed in the ink jet recording sheet as claimed in the present invention. Thus, the cited references do not teach or suggest all elements of the claimed invention, whether taken alone or in combination.

Specifically, Katoh describes styrene as a co-polymerizable unit for forming a cationic polymer. However, "CP-25", which has a structure similar to that of the unit represented by the formula (2) of the present invention and which is the only example having styrene as a co-polymerizable unit among the specific embodiments shown in Tables 1 to 4 of Katoh, has a styrene content of 10 % by mol and is thus outside the scope of the unit of the formula (2) of the present invention which necessarily contains 20 % by mol or more of the unit Z. This specific embodiment of Katoh is similar to the comparative examples in the present specification.

Yasuda teaches an ink jet recording sheet having a cationic copolymer which is a copolymerization product of "(b) 0.05 to 0.4 molar % of a cationic copolymerization component comprising at least one cationic co-monomer having at least one ethylenically unsaturated hydrocarbon radical and at least one cationic radical selected from the group consisting of tertiary amino radicals and quaternary ammonium radicals" (claim 1 of Yasuda). Namely, the

content of a cationic monomer is outside the scope of the cationic resins represented by the formula (1) or (2) as claimed in the present invention which necessarily contain 20 % by mol or more of the units Q and Z.

Further, the working examples of Yasuda are estimated to have cation equivalents of much smaller than 1 meq/g, and are thus outside the scope of the cationic resins represented by the formula (1) or (2) as claimed in the present invention which necessarily have cation equivalents of at least 1.5 meq/g or more and no more than 4 meq/g.

In addition, both of Katoh and Yasuda fail to teach or suggest the effect of the inkjet recording sheet achieved by having the characteristics of the I/O value as claimed in the present invention. Accordingly, there is no motivation for one skilled in the art to specifically modify the cationic polymer of Katoh or Yasuda to be within the scope of the cationic resin as recited in claim 1. Claims 6-16 depend from claim 1 and are patentable for at least the same reasons.

Moreover, neither of Katoh or Yasuda teaches the subject matter as recited in new claims 11-16. For this additional reason new claims 11-16 are patentable over the cited references.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

II. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Application No.: 10/715,600

Attorney Docket No.: Q78466

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

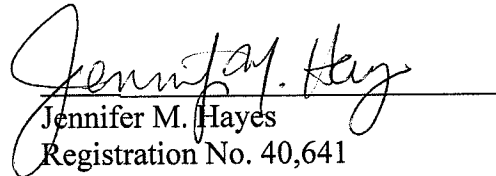
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Date: October 8, 2009


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